(2) Extension of Spur No. 2 of Jajpur-Keonjhar Road to handle full rake loading.

(3) Development of circulating area and lighting facility of goods shed.

(4) Provision of crossover at Howrah end to have direct access for up Main line with signalled entry and dispatch for goods shed.

Permission for duty free import of wheat

†*88. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given permission to private sector for duty free import of wheat from companies of USA;

(b) if so, the expected price of this imported wheat per quintal;

(c) whether Government have given permission to restrict the excess quantity of weeds and insecticides and to relax quality standard in the imported wheat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government has permitted import of wheat under Open General License (OGL) at reduced duty import duty of 5% till 31.12.2006, which would allow both private and public sector companies to import wheat from any foreign suppliers including US companies.

(b) As per current market trends the Cost and Freight (C&F) prices of imported wheat are expected to be in the range of US $ 17.5 to 21.0/per Quintal, depending upon the variety of wheat and the country of origin.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

---

†Original notice of Question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Quality specifications of wheat for import during 2006-07 vis-a-vis specifications for domestic procurement

Sl. No.	Specifications	For Import	For domestic procurement
1.	Test weight	78 kg. per HL (Min.) However, wheat having test weight upto 76 Kg. per HL will be acceptable with value cut. For each 100 gms. decrease in test weight below 78 Kg. per HL and upto 76Kg. per HL, a proportionate value cut at the rate of half value will be applicable.	Not prescribed.
2.	Damaged grains (including heat damaged, stained, dis-coloured, black tipped, sprouted, frosted, insect damaged, ergoty, dwarf bunted and karnal bunt affected grains). Limit of karnal bunt affected grains & sprouted grains should not exceed 0.5% each by weight and ergoty & dwarf bunted grain should not exceed 0.01% and 0.005% by weight respectively.	3% (max.) However, wheat having damaged grains upto 4% will be acceptable with value cut. For each basis point increase in damaged grains above 3% and upto 4%, a proportionate value cut at the rate of full value will be applicable.	2% (Max.) damaged grains and 6% slightly damaged grains.
3.	Broken and shriveled grains	3% (max.) However, wheat having broken and shriveled grains upto 5% will be acceptable with value cut. For each basis point increase in broken and shriveled grains above 3% and upto 5%, a proportionate value cut at the rate of half value will be applicable.	7% (Max.)

Sl. No.	Specifications	For Import	For domestic procurement
4.	Moisture content	12.0% (max.) However, wheat having moisture content upto 13.75% will be acceptable with value cut. For each basis point increase in moisture above 12% and upto 13.75%, a proportionate value cut at the rate of full value will be applicable.	12-14% (More than 12% upto 14% with full value cut)
5.	Quarantine/exotic weed seeds	Wheat shall not have more than average of 100 quarantine weed seeds per 200 kg. of samples drawn from single consignment.	Not applicable
6.	Deoxynivalenol (DON toxin)	2000ppb (max.)	1000 ppb (max.) However, it is not checked at the time of procurement.
7.	Argemone mexicana and Lathyrus satirus	Wheat shall be practically free and this shall be ensured by the supplier through sieving and other appropriate methods.	Free (However, it is not checked at the time of procurement).
8.	Tolerance Limit (mg/kg.) ppm-Max.		

	Name of Insecticide/ Pesticide	Proposed for import	Codex	PFA
I.	Carbaryl	2.0	2.0	1.5
II.	Fenitrothion	2.0	2.0	0.02
III.	Hydrogen Phosphide	0.1	0.1	Nil
IV.	Inorganic bromide (determined and expressed as total bromide from all sources)	50.0	50.00	25.00
V.	Malathion (Malathion to be determined as expressed as combined residues of Malathion and malaoxon)	2 .0	2.0	4.0
VI.	Phosphamidon Residues (expressed as the sum of the phosphamidon and its desethyl derivative)	0.1	0.1	0.05
VII.	Dithiocarbamates (the residue tolerance limit are determined and expressed as mg/Cs2/ Kg. and refer separately to the residues arising from any or each groups of dithiocarbamates (a) Dimethyl dithio-carbamates residue resulting from the use of ferbam or Ziram, and (b) Ethylene bis-dithio-carbamates resulting from the use of mancozebmane or Zincb (including zineb derived from nabam plus zinc sulphate)	1.0	1.0	0.20 However, residues of none of the pesticides is tested at the time of domestic procurement.